

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06

SIL-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /232 W

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R 301640Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4254

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NL

SUBJECT: 1975 DUTCH AID PROGRAMS

1. AT HIS REQUEST, I CALLED ON JAN MEIJER, DIRECTOR GENERAL, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, MFA AUGUST 29 FOR A DISCUSSION OF 1975 DUTCH AID PROGRAMS. MEIJER STRESSED THAT INFORMATION HE WAS PROVIDING HAD NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC AND THAT RECIPIENT COUNTRIES HAD YET TO BE INFORMED. HE ASKED THAT INFORMATION BE HELD CLOSELY. I ASSURED HIM IT WOULD BE.

2. MEIJER SAID THAT AT CABINET MEETING AUG. 26, BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROJECTS FOR CY 1975 AND LIST OF CONCENTRATION COUNTRIES APPROVED. DURING 1975 GON PLANS CONTINUE ASSISTANCE AT CURRENT OR HIGHER LEVELS TO FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: INDONESIA, PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH, INDIA, KENYA, TANZANIA AND PERU. FOUR NEW COUNTRIES (SRI LANKA, NORTH YEMEN, SUDAN AND UPPER VOLTA) HAVE BEEN ADDED TO LIST OF DUTCH AID CONCENTRATION RECIPIENTS. DUTCH ALSO PLAN BEGIN LIMITED PROJECT AID PROGRAMS WITH ZAMBIA, JAMAICA, EGYPT AND CUBA. MEIJER COMMENTED THAT DECISION TO BEGIN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN EGYPT (WHICH HE SPECULATED MIGHT INVOLVE 10-20 MILLION DOLLARS OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL YEARS) HAD BEEN MADE BECAUSE OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM UNITED STATES.

3. GON PLANS REDUCE ASSISTANCE LEVELS IN COLOMBIA, NIGERIA, TURKEY AND TUNISIA. IN LATTER TWO COUNTRIES DUTCH AID WILL FOCUS ON PROJECTS WHICH DESIGNED CREATE EMPLOYMENT POSSIBILITIES. MEIJER SAID THAT THE PROGRAMS IN THESE COUNTRIES SHOULD BE SEEN IN RELATION TO THE COUNTRIES' POSITION AS PROVIDERS OF FOREIGN WORKERS TO THE NETHERLANDS.

4. THE GON HAS MADE A DECISION TO CONTINUE ASSISTANCE TO SURINAM AFTER THE COUNTRY BECOMES INDEPENDENT. A FINAL DECISION ON SIZE OF DUTCH AID HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUT IT IS GENERALLY AGREED THAT AID WILL CONTINUE AT CURRENT OR SLIGHTLY HIGHER LEVELS. RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAM WILL, AFTER INDEPENDENCE, BE TRANSFERRED FROM MINISTRY OF INTERIOR TO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MAIJER SAID THERE WAS A DUTCH TEAM IN SURINAM AT PRESENT TIME STUDYING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROJECTS.

5. FOR SEVERAL YEARS GON AND GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN A NUMBER OF JOINT ASSISTANCE PROJECTS. ACCORDING TO MEIJER, THESE PROGRAMS WILL BE CONTINUED THROUGH 1975 BUT SOME OF THEM MAY HAVE TO BE REVISED IN VIEW OF THE ISRAELI DIPLOMATIC SITUATION RESULTING FROM THE MIDDLE EAST WAR. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MINISTER PRONK WILL HEAD A MISSION TO ISRAEL NEXT YEAR TO DISCUSS PROGRAM.

6. ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE NEW ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR INDO-CHINA, MEIJER SAID NONE WERE PLANNED. GON HAS HAD SOME DIFFICULTY IN SUPPLYING CONCRETE REINFORCING RODS TO NORTH VIETNAM UNDER CURRENT PROGRAM, BUT OBSTACLES NOW APPARENTLY REMOVED. MEIJER REMARKED THAT NOW THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE HAD DECIDED OPEN EMBASSY IN PARIS, PERHAPS HANOI WOULD WANT EXCHANGE RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVES WITH GON, DUTCH AMBASSADOR PEKING NOW HANDLES DUTCH-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS.

7. CONCLUDING THE DISCUSSION, MEIJER SAID THAT IF THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT AGREED TO THE PROPOSED DUTCH ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THAT COUNTRY, IT WAS PROBABLE THAT HE WOULD TRAVEL TO HAVANA IN LATE SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER. MEIJER SAID HE EXPECTED INFORM THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR OF PROPOSED DUTCH AID WITHIN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO AND WOULD AT THAT TIME RAISE QUESTION OF HIS TRIP TO HAVANA. I SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE PROFITABLE FOR MEIJER TO STOP OFF IN WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH DEPARTMENT IN CONJUNCTION WITH TRIP. HE AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL, AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO RETURN VIA WASHINGTON AFTER VISITING CUBA. EMBASSY WILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM REGARDING HIS TRIP.

TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), CABINET MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA04288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740242-0574
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974082/aaaaabhw.tel
Line Count: 154
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 1975 DUTCH AID PROGRAMS
TAGS: EAID, NL, IN, PK, PE, TZ, (MEIJER, JAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005